

CITY OF HEALDSBURG Public Works Department

401 Grove Street Healdsburg, CA 95448-4723

> Phone (707) 431-3346 Fax: (707) 431-2710

Visit us at www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us

January 21, 2010

Mr. David Leland North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board North Coast Region Attn; Mr. David Leland, Supervising Water Resources Control Engineer 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Subject:

City of Healdsburg Proposal for Supplemental Environmental Project

Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R1-2008-0124

Dear Mr. Leland:

We understand that there have been some inquires and concerns raised by individuals related to the proposed settlement agreement and SEP. We understand the concerns to be primarily related to the references to agricultural irrigation utilizing recycled water.

Under paragraph 8 of the settlement agreement, it was agreed that we would meet and confer with Water Board staff regarding objections raised during the public comment period, and we also agreed that we may adjust the agreement and/or offer proposals to the Board for their consideration.

To address the concerns raised, I would like to suggest that the SEP project description be modified to delete any reference to agricultural irrigation. Given that the majority of the design effort will be associated with design of the urban recycled water distribution system, I don't envision a problem meeting the \$192,000 expenditure required under the proposed settlement agreement.

As such, and consistent with paragraph 8 of the settlement agreement I would like to suggest the following modified project description for the SEP.

The City would like to submit an SEP proposal wherein we would prepare plans and specifications for a recycled water distribution system that would make the recycled water from our newly constructed \$32 million dollar AWT facility available for urban irrigation and reuse.

Our proposal is that we would be agreeable to pay the civil penalty proposed in the ACL in the amount of \$177,000 to the Cleanup and Abatement Account and pay \$192,000 going to an SEP project to fund a portion of the design of the recycled water distribution system for urban irrigation and reuse.

The SEP would fund a portion of the costs associated with the design of the urban recycled water distribution system, including preparation of plans, specifications, and contract documents. The physical improvements for the urban recycled water distribution system covered under the design include a new recycled water pump station located at the new AWT facility, approximately 5 miles of 12" and 8" pipeline to convey recycled water from the new AWT facility to and through the City, a new crossing over Dry Creek on a cable suspension bridge, a bored-and-jacked steel conductor casing

under Highway 101, and a new 750,000 gallon bolted-steel storage tank at the Tayman Park Golf Course. These improvements will facilitate the ability to irrigate approximately 88 acres of public turf areas; including Tayman Park Golf Course, Badger Park, Recreation Park; Oakmound Cemetery, and turf areas at Healdsburg Elementary, Healdsburg Junior High, Fitch Mountain Elementary, and Healdsburg High schools. In addition, the contract documents would include contractor requirements such as licensing, bonding criteria, insurance coverage documentation, prevailing wage requirements, compliance with state regulations, including stormwater management during construction.

I would like to offer the following community and other third party benefits as support of our modified proposal:

- Depending on climate conditions, in excess of 450 acre feet of water annually could be available for beneficially reuse for urban irrigation. This beneficial reuse would result in "in lieu" ground and surface water recharge through pumping avoidance. This is the equivalent of 16 percent of our current annual water demand, or nearly 450 households in Healdsburg. Over a 20 year period this equates to 2,950 million gallons of water.
- 2. The Healdsburg Unified School District, Oakmound Cemetery and the Parks and Recreation Department would save approximately \$25,000 on an annual basis in their irrigation bill. This money could be used to avoiding cutting much needed after school and education programs.
- The 12" diameter urban recycled water pipeline provides the opportunity to enhance fire
 protection services in older parts of town which are currently served by 4" and 6" diameter
 water lines.
- 4. A beneficial reuse project such as that contemplated by the City furthers the purposes of Water Code §13550 13551 by making high quality effluent available for ...purposes so as to preserve the region's supply of potable water. This project also meets the "need for a reliable source of water for uses not related to the supply of potable water to protect investments in ... greenbelts, and recreation . . ." recognized by the Legislature in Water Code § 13576, subdivision (c), and implements the goals set by the State Water Resources Control Board in its February 2009 Recycled Water Policy.

For purposes of monitoring and determining completion of our proposed SEP the following schedule is proposed:

Task	Due Date
Conduct engineering and design work on recycled water distribution system.	Submit progress report to Regional Board by March 17, 2010
Prepare Final Plans and Specifications and Engineering Report	Submit completion report to Regional Board by July 14, 2010

I believe the modified SEP project description meets the spirit and intent of both our parties' original commitment, while at the same time deleting any references to potentially controversial items. However, the City respectfully reserves the right to pursue agricultural irrigation using recycled water as part of our overall commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and, effectively and beneficially reuse this valuable resource.

Sincerely,

Michael Kirn

Public Works Director City of Healdsburg

CC Marjie Pettus, City Manager